

HALL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING DECEMBER 30, 2003

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pamela Lancaster.

INVOCATION – Invocation was given by Chairman Pamela Lancaster.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was given in unison.

ROLL CALL –Present on roll call were Scott Arnold, Jim Eriksen, Dick Hartman, Bob Humiston, Bud Jeffries, Pamela Lancaster and Bob Rye

Consent agenda - Arnold made a motion and Jeffries seconded to approve the following by consent agenda.

1. Accept and place on file the minutes of the December 16th meeting
2. 15 Place on file communications from the Regional Planning Commission
3. 24 Accept and place on file the Hall County Treasurer's Miscellaneous Receipts
4. 25 Accept and place on file communications as received

Arnold, Eriksen, Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

2a CONSIDER AND APPROVE AMENDMENT OF KENO GRANT OT NEBRASKA VISUALLY IMPAIRED PEER SUPPORT ORGANIZATION – Howard Simons with the Nebraska Impaired Support Organization was present. He explained that when he applied for the keno grant they intended to place hand-held readers in grocery stores so visually impaired clients could use the equipment to assist purchasing groceries, but it was found that the clients would have people with them to assist with the shopping, and the units are not used. He is requesting to use the money to continue the home teaching plus program that the State has discontinued. This program assists the visually impaired to use alternate ways to be able to live independently.

Jeffries made a motion and Hartman seconded to approve the amendment of the keno grant. Arnold, Eriksen, Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

Supervisor Arnold thanked Mr. Simons for coming and explaining the program.

2b DISCUSS AND APPROVE SUBLEASE AGREEMENT WITH KOLN/KGIN – This is in connection with the cell site for the mobile data terminals with the Spillman law enforcement project. County Attorney Jerry Janulewicz has been working with them for several months and sent the agreement for signatures. He stated in an E-mail the he has reviewed the agreement and had made some language changes. He stated that KOLN/KGIN should be thanked for their cooperation on this project.

Arnold made a motion and Humiston seconded to approve the sublease agreement with KOLN/KGIN and authorize the chair to sign. Arnold, Eriksen, Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries, Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

Held a board of equalization meeting.

16 COMMENCE AUDIT AND APPROVAL OF BI WEEKLY PAY CLAIMS – Arnold made a motion and Humiston seconded to approve the bi-weekly pay claims and authorize the clerk to pay.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Chairman Lancaster called for public participation and no one responded.

BOARD ASSISTANT'S REPORT – Board Assistant Stacey Ruzicka was present and reminded the board members to return the performance evaluation by January 8th.

BOARD MEMBER'S REPORTS – Chairman Lancaster asked if any of the members had any reports and no one responded.

NEW OR UNFINIHSSED BUSINESS – Chairman Lancaster called for new or unfinished business and Supervisor Arnold stated that he had an item that he would like to discuss. He was contacted by Valorie Bendixen, Clerk of the District Court concerning the hiring of a replacement employee.

The County Board established a policy that the elected officials must appear before the board for approval to fill any positions, replacements or new hires. Arnold stated that the hiring of a replacement employee in the clerk of the district court is critical and the position needs to be filled as soon as possible. She would like to advertise and interview before the approval is given and she would like some assurance that the position can be filled. This incident happened on December 24th.

Jeffries questioned why she did not put it on the agenda for today's meeting. Arnold stated that there was not enough time.

Lancaster stated that she also talked to Ms. Bendixen and explained the process to her and suggested that temporary help could be hired and since the employee is no longer there would be extra dollars available for overtime pay if that were necessary. Lancaster stated that she did not feel comfortable telling her to go ahead with the hiring process

Hartman expressed concern that the county board is trying to micro-manage the offices and he would like to rescind this motion.

Eriksen stated that the board has established a procedure and they should continue to follow it. She has other options to cover the shortage and he doesn't want to make a guarantee one way or the other.

Arnold stated that he agrees with Dick and maybe the policy should be changed. It may cost more to use temporary people. During the budget process the board knew that the Clerk of the District Court requested to hire two people and was funded with only one, so the board knows that she needs the help and maybe they are trying to micro-manage.

Lancaster stated that during the committee meeting they agreed that the board may have to consider positions and benefits in order to address the budget concerns. The board adopted this policy and they need to follow the same standards for all departments.

Hartman stated we have to have faith in the appointed and elected people and if changes need to be made they can be done at election time. He may put this on the agenda for the next meeting. We have to trust our people.

Jeffries stated the board has a policy how this is to be handled and they need to follow the policy.

1:10 p.m. meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be January 13, 2004.

Marla J. Conley Hall County Clerk